



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION 20160608-5Bii

Date: 06-10-2016

Subject: TWC Chapter 809 Child Care Rules Recommendation

Motioned By: Member Holder

Seconded By: Member Overton

Recommendation

The Early Childhood Council recommends that the Austin City Council support the proposed Child Care Rules from the Texas Workforce Commission related to eligibility re-determination of child care services. The Early Childhood Council is in support of the change to re-determine eligibility for child care services no sooner than 12 months from initial determination.

Description of Recommendation to Council

On May 31, 2016, the Texas Workforce Commission approved changes to Chapter 809 Child Care Services relating to the Re-authorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant. The proposed rules include changes to accessing child care services for working families. The Early Childhood Council is supporting a rule that establishes a 12-month eligibility of child care services regardless of temporary changes in parent's work or income up to 85% State Median Income.

Rationale:

Research shows that it is important for families, particularly for vulnerable children and families, to be *consistently* engaged in high-quality child care and that they are able to build stable relationships with teachers who are familiar and sensitive to a young child's needs. Establishing this "continuity of care" ensures positive long-term outcomes in future academic and social success for young children. A 12-month eligibility of child care services preserves this continuity for vulnerable families and children regardless of changes in a parent's household or work circumstance.

Vote **9-0-0**

For: Members Brown, Doggett, Elsner, Holder, Huston, Overton, Porter, Son, Wren

Against: None

Abstain:

Absent: Members Paver and Sanchez

Attest: